

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for reading electronic mails, comprising:
  - a storing unit storing unread/already information corresponding to each of received electronic mails;
  - 5 a managing unit managing an electronic mail setting the state of "unread" at a predetermined timing; and a controller controlling a management of reading of the electronic mail setting the state of "unread" managed by said managing unit.
- 10 2. A device according to claim 1, wherein said storing unit stores state information indicating a state of "unread" or "already-read" of a corresponding electronic mail as the unread/already-read information,
  - said managing unit creates a list in which a electronic mail of which the corresponding state information stored in said storing unit at the predetermined timing indicates the state of "unread" is registered; and
  - 15 said controller executes a process for displaying a registered electronic mail in said list on a display according to a request for reading the registered electronic mail.
- 15 3. A device according to claim 2, wherein said controller specifies the mail corresponding to the request by use of said list, and displays a body of the specified electronic mail on said display.
- 20 4. A device according to claim 1, further comprising a display controller displaying a screen for searching the electronic mail managed by said managing unit on said display.

5. A device according to claim 4, wherein said list holds information of the plurality of registered electronic mails in predetermined sort order;

5 a pointer is set at any one of the information in said list; and

said display controller displays the screen for searching an electronic mail registered next to the registered electronic mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer and/or a previous electronic mail of the registered electronic

10 mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer.

6. A device according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined timing is a time point of which reading the body of the electronic mail is requested.

7. A device according to claim 2, wherein said managing unit deletes said list on the basis of a request for an end of reading the electronic mail.

8. A storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program executable by the computer to perform method for causing the computer to function as device for reading electronic mails, the method comprising:

storing unread/already information corresponding to each of received electronic mails;

managing an electronic mail setting the state of "unread" at a predetermined timing; and

25 controlling a management of reading of the electronic mail setting the state of "unread" managed by said second step.

9. A storage medium according to claim 8, wherein said

storing step stores state information indicating a state of "unread" or "already-read" of a corresponding electronic mail as the unread/already-read information,

5 said managing step creates a list in which a electronic mail of which the corresponding state information stored in said storing step at the predetermined timing indicates the state of "unread" is registered; and

said controlling step executes a process for displaying a registered electronic mail in said list on a display according

10 to a request for reading the registered electronic mail.

10. A storage medium according to claim 9, wherein said controlling step specifies the mail corresponding to the request by use of said list, and displays a body of the specified electronic mail on said display.

15 11. A storage medium according to claim 8, further comprising displaying a screen for searching the electronic mail managed by said managing step on said display.

12. A storage medium according to claim 11, wherein said list holds information of the plurality of registered 20 electronic mails in predetermined sort order,

a pointer is set at any one of the information in said list,

25 said displaying step displays the screen for searching an electronic mail registered next to the registered electronic mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer and/or a previous electronic mail of the registered electronic mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer.

13. A storage medium according to claim 8, wherein the predetermined timing is a time point of which reading the body of the electronic mail is requested.

14. A storage medium according to claim 9, wherein said 5 second step deletes said list on the basis of a request for an end of reading the electronic mail.

15. A method for controlling reading electronic mails, comprising:

10 storing unread/already information corresponding to each of received electronic mails;

managing an electronic mail setting the state of "unread" at a predetermined timing; and

controlling a management of reading of the electronic mail setting the state of "unread" managed by said second step.

15 16. A method according to claim 15, wherein said storing step stores state information indicating a state of "unread" or "already-read" of a corresponding electronic mail as the unread/already-read information,

20 said managing step creates a list in which a electronic mail of which the corresponding state information stored in said storing step at the predetermined timing indicates the state of "unread" is registered; and

25 said controlling step executes a process for displaying a registered electronic mail in said list on a display according to a request for reading the registered electronic mail.

17. A method according to claim 16, wherein said controlling step specifies the mail corresponding to the

request by use of said list, and displays a body of the specified electronic mail on said display.

18. A method according to claim 15, further comprising displaying a screen for searching the electronic mail managed by said managing step on said display.

19. A method according to claim 18, wherein said list holds information of the plurality of registered electronic mails in predetermined sort order,

10 a pointer is set at any one of the information in said list,

15 said displaying step displays the screen for searching an electronic mail registered next to the registered electronic mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer and/or a previous electronic mail of the registered electronic mail corresponding to the information pointed by the pointer.

20. A method according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined timing is a time point of which reading the body of the electronic mail is requested.

21. A method according to claim 16, wherein said second step deletes said list on the basis of a request for an end of reading the electronic mail.